

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-134

Magi No. 2401345304

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic ~~Scott House~~ John A. Purnell House

and/or common Scott House

2. Location

street & number 204 South Main Street ___ not for publication

city, town Berlin ___ vicinity of congressional district 1st

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. and Mrs. William H. Scott

street & number 204 South Main Street telephone no.: 301-641-1927

city, town Berlin state and zip code MD 21811

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Courthouse liber

street & number Market Street folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Scott house, 204 South Main Street, is a 2½-story frame dwelling with gable roof. The side-hall planned main block is three bays across (with the entrance in the right bay) and two bays deep. A lower 2½-story gable-roofed wing built by the owners in 1956 extends to the rear.

The early 19th century main block shows many similarities to other Berlin houses in the area. A small room located at the end of the hall creates a floor plan similar to the gable-fronted early-19th century houses in the town with a 90° turn in the orientation of the entrance. The stairs, with raised paneling below, rise and turn at a landing immediately to the right of the entrance. The entrance surround contains a decorative transom and side lights with raised panels below. The entrance is covered by a small porch with a brick floor of recent vintage. The porch features simple columns topped by flat wooden arches beneath a cornice containing modillions identical in design to those located on the cornice at the roof line. First floor windows are 9/6; and second floor windows, 6/6. A large interior chimney containing four flues rises in the peak of the gable on the south side. The structure is sheathed in wooden shingles placed over beaded weatherboards, according to the owner.

The interior of the Scott house contains much of its original material. A large opening between the parlors appears to have been made in the late 19th century, and the present owners have made some discernable changes. Remaining unaltered are features such as raised panels with molding under first floor windows, distinctive eight-paneled doors on the first floor with the second floor doors of a distinctly different design featuring horizontal panels.

Of special note are a group of out-buildings, located to the rear of the dwelling. Included are a log smoke house covered with hand-riven shingles, a privy with boxed cornice and decorative end boards, and two other gable-roofed out-buildings that merit further study.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Scott house, located in the heart of Berlin's historic district, is one of its most important structures, being one of a series of similar houses built in Berlin in the early 19th century and as such warrants further study.

Scott House, 204 S. Main

Gable roof, frame, $2\frac{1}{2}$ story main block

3 bay front x 2 bay

Side hall plan

Brick foundation

$9\frac{1}{6}$ windows first floor

$6\frac{1}{6}$ windows second floor

Large interior chimney, corbeled in peak of gable, south end.

Originally: beaded weather-boards

Now wooden shingles

Lever $2\frac{1}{2}$ story gable w shed wings on rear (west)

Modern brick foundation, boxed cornice, modern moldings

Rectangular 1 story bay projection on north side

1 window deep x 3 wide - $6\frac{1}{6}$ windows

5 sided - one story rear addition with wooden steps, porch, entrance with gable roof, bracketed hood.

2 car modern garage attached to house by covered walkway.

Notable long smoke house covered with hand riven shingles, strap hinges. Small brick chimney in gable peak.

New wood shingle roof - Boxed rafters

Equally notable out house:

Gable roof, new wooden shingles

Siding hand riven shingles over wide horizontal boards.

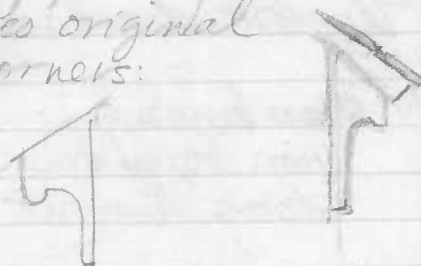
Interior seats removed; exposed rafters, framing and walls whitewashed

Door is later replacement

Gable end window opening facing east is louvered

South west corner features original

Replacements in other corners:



Two other outbuildings covered w asphalt roofing, gable roofed contain old framing & merit a further look.

Barn on north side - lost

Modern
additions
1956

Out buildings

Originally - $1\frac{1}{2}$ story in rear - older
 Fireplace with stairs to loft
 Small - 12×12
 Victorian connector

Main Block:

Side hall plan w/ stairs
 close to entrance.

Small room at end of hall
 possible had hall door

similar to gable front floor plans

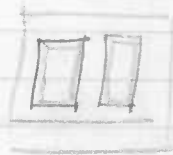
Turn parlors originally no opening between -
 Victorian woodwork originally surrounded
 opening.

Mantels altered, cupboards in SE & SW corners added
 Each parlor has original cupboards at a & b.

- Bedrooms above w/ original mantels.

Raised panels w/ molding under windows in
 front parlor

Panel w/ molding under windows in
 back parlor & hallway



Door & window surrounds originally featured
 reeding w/ corner blocks. Blocks replaced
 & reeding duplicated, mitered

Downstairs doors 8 panels raised both sides

Upstairs doors:

Brass knobs &
 iron boxes on
 doors thru out

